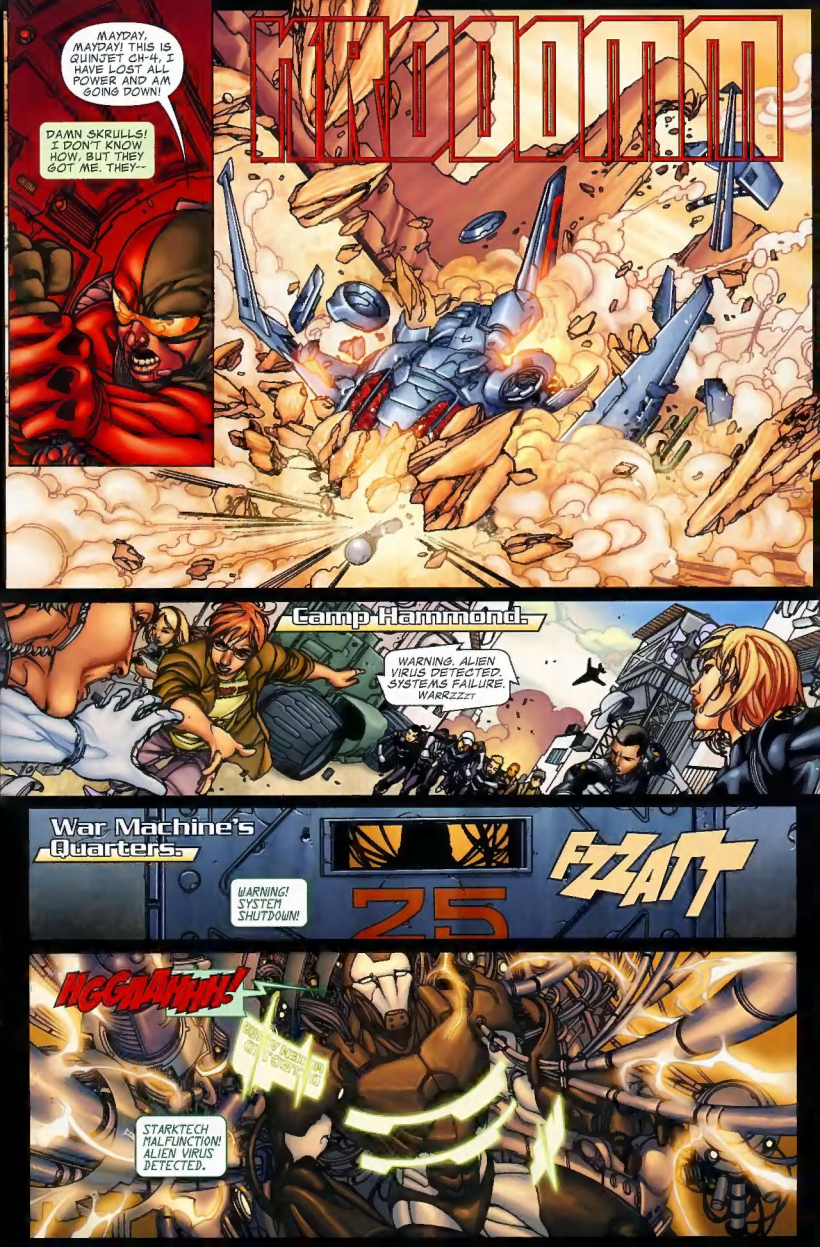
Camp Hammond.
3-D MAN? WHAT ARE YOU ON ABOUT?
AN ALIEN INVASION?
SOMETHING ABOUT SHAPE-SHIFTERS?
UH...NO. IT WAS A TEST.
THE POINT, MEN, MY TEAM IN HAWAII, WE WERE RUNNING A DRILL. IF THERE *WERE* AN INVASION...
EMERGENCY EVACUATION THROUGH DEVIL-SLAYER'S CLOAK... BACK TO HERE... THE MAIN BASE.
UNDERSTOOD. I KNOW HOW DISORIENTING THE SHADOW CLOAK GETS.
THANKS... HELLCAT.
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY, 3-D MAN. YOU STILL SEEM... DISORIENTED.
THIS IS THE MOMENT OF TRUTH. HE'S LOOKING RIGHT AT ME. HE EITHER *KNOWS* I'M A SKRULL OR--
NOT HERE, CADET. FOLLOW ME.
THIS'LL SOUND CRAZY, *CRUSADER*, BUT THESE GOGGLES I'M WEARING, THEY'RE FROM THE *ORIGINAL* 3-D MAN, AND THEY LET ME SEE SKRULLS. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THOSE ARE?
YES.
WELL, AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, WE MIGHT BE THE *ONLY* TWO HUMANS LEFT ON BASE.
BY THE THRONEWORLD! IT WORKED. MY *FREEDOM RING*, IT WARPED REALITY, CHANGED THE POLARITY ON HIS GOGGLES...
HE'S SEEING SKRULLS AS HUMANS AND HUMANS AS SKRULLS. BUT THE RING ONLY WORKS FOR A THIRTY-FOOT RADIUS...
WE NEED TO GET OUT. WARN SOMEONE. THE AVENGERS. THE FF. C'MON, YOU'RE STICKING WITH ME.
UM...

WAIT. THAT COULD LOOK... SUSPICIOUS. TAKE ONE OF THE QUINJETS. PUT SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND CAMP HAMMOND.
I'LL STAY BEHIND AND SMOOTH THINGS OUT. BUY YOU SOME TIME.
YOU'RE A BRAVE MAN, CRUSADER. KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN... I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
IF I CAN JUST GET OUT OF HIS LINE OF SIGHT...
COME ON, COME ON...
MADE IT!
MADE IT!
TOWER ONE CALLING QUINJET. YOUR FLIGHT IS UNAUTHORIZED. IDENTIFY AND STATE YOUR MISSION OR BE SHOT DOWN. OVER.
TOWER, THIS IS 3-D MAN. I HAVE INITIATIVE TEAM LEADER STATUS. I'M AFRAID THE PURPOSE OF THIS TRIP IS CLASSIFIED. WILL CALL IN AS SITUATION ALLOWS. OVER.
SECURITY STATUS VERIFIED. TRAVEL SAFE, SIR. OUT.

OKAY, DELROY, YOU GOT OUT. NOW WHAT?
IF THE SKRULLS HAVE INFILTRATED CAMP HAMMOND, WHO'S TO SAY THEY HAVEN'T ALSO REPLACED THE AVENGERS? OR ANYONE I MIGHT CALL?
MY GLASSES ONLY WORK IN PERSON. I CAN'T RISK USING THE COMMUNICATOR...CAN'T TRUST ANYBODY.
WAIT--THERE IS SOMEONE. CHUCK CHANDLER GAVE ME THESE GOGGLES, AND NO ONE HAS MORE EXPERIENCE FIGHTING SKRULLS THAN THE ORIGINAL 3-D MAN.
AT TOP SPEED, I CAN REACH NEW MEXICO IN AN HOUR...
New Mexico.
ALERT. STARKTECH MALFUNCTION. ALIEN VIRUS DETECTED. ALER--SQUEE
WHAT--?

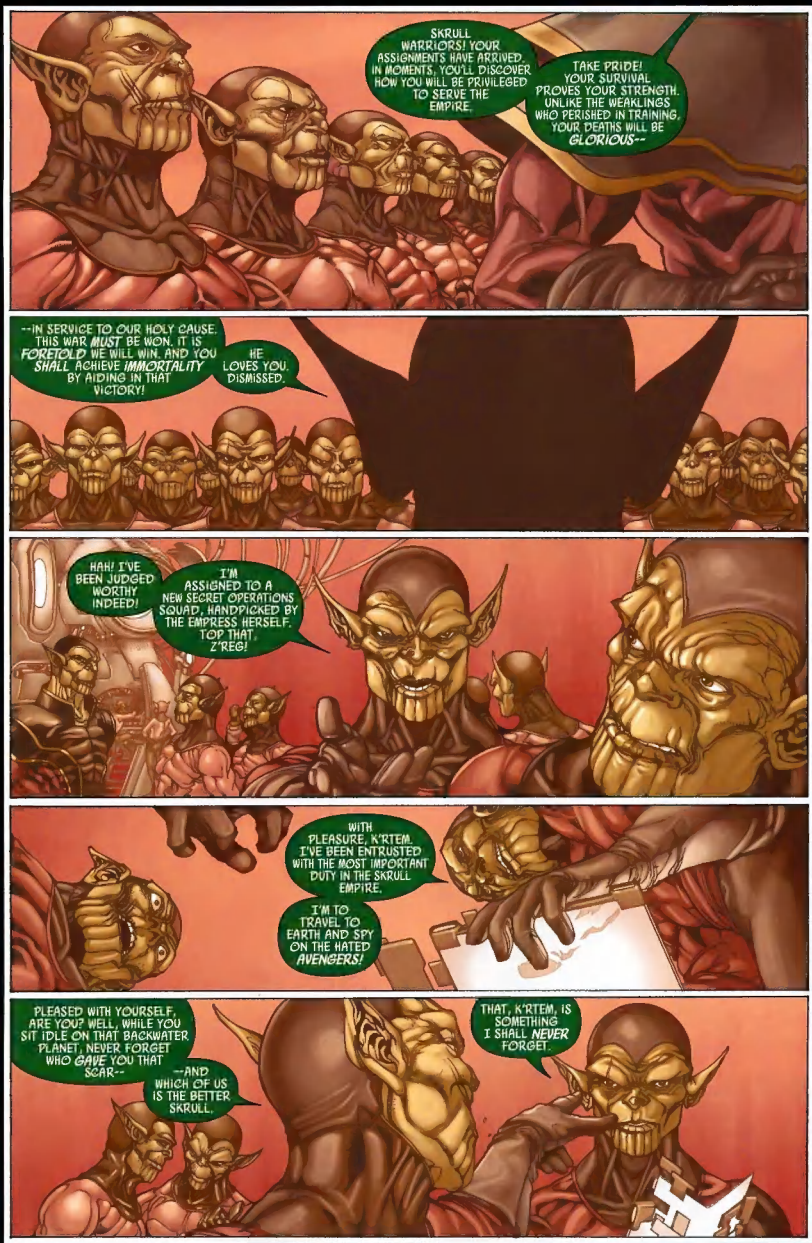

MAYDAY, MAYDAY! THIS IS QUINJET CH-4. I HAVE LOST ALL POWER AND AM GOING DOWN!
DAMN SKRULLS! I DON'T KNOW HOW, BUT THEY GOT ME. THEY--
KRAKOOM
Camp Hammond.
WARNING. ALIEN VIRUS DETECTED. SYSTEMS FAILURE. WARRZZZT!
War Machine's Quarters.
WARNING! SYSTEM SHUTDOWN!
25
FZZATT
HGGNAHHH!
STARKTECH MALFUNCTION! ALIEN VIRUS DETECTED.

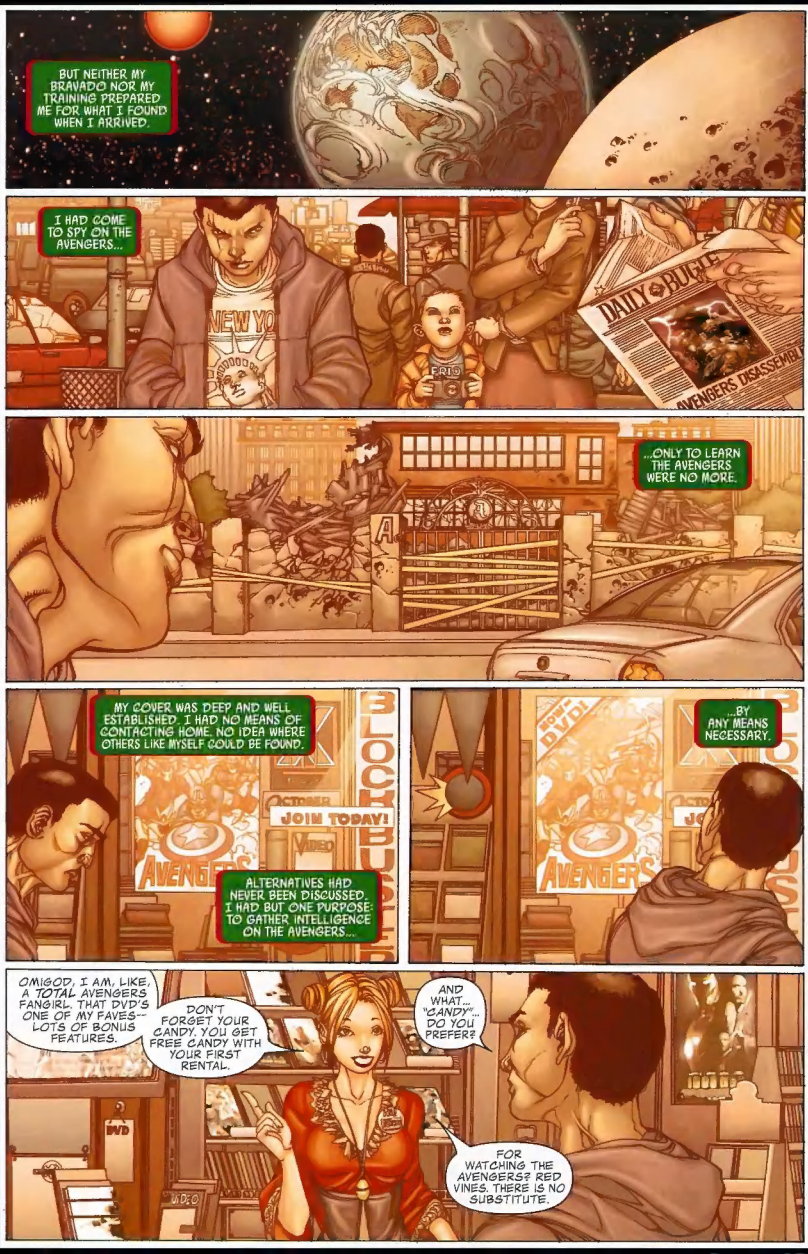
GO TO HELL... BLITZSCHLAG, I'D RATHER DIE...THAN BEG FOR HELP... FROM A NAZI.
YOU VOUND ME, HERR RHODES. SINCE I HAFF BEEN IN AMERIKA, I HAFF VORKED VITH MANY OF THE COLORED, UND HAFF I EVER COMPLAINED?
BESIDES, VITH HERR GYRICH GONE FROM THE INITIATIVE, IT BEHOOVES ME TO HAFF MORE... FRIENDS.
ARHH!
UND WHO IS A BETTER FRIEND THAN THE MAN WHO SAVES YOUR LIFE?
KZZT
ALL POWER TO LIFE SUPPORT. LEVELS AT 25%.
PERHAPS YOU VILL APPRECIATE THE IRONY. DURING THE VAR, I FOUGHT YOUR FRIEND ISAIAH BRADLEY-- THE "BLACK KAPITAN AMERIKA." HE NEARLY KILLED ME.
IF HE HAD, I VOULD NOT BE HERE TO RESCUE YOU TODAY.
VHAT A HAPPY OUTCOME FOR ALL OF US, EH?

IS THIS A DRILL, MR. GAUNTLET?
AIN'T A DRILL, GORILLA GIRL.
YOU GUYS REALLY NEED TO GET BACK TO YOUR BARRACKS.
BUT DIAMONDBACK, THERE'S NO POWER, THERE'S NO--
WE KNOW.
SOMETHING'S GOING ON! IF SOMETHING'S GOING ON YOU SHOULD TELL US, WE'RE--
OKAY!
LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY... POWER'S OUT, STARKTECH IS OUT, WE CAN'T GET S.H.I.E.L.D., TONY STARK, THE AVENGERS, OR ANYONE ELSE ON THE HORN.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING, CRUSADER.
SERIOUSLY?
YELLOW-JACKET?
GUYS!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THE CITY'S UNDER ATTACK! THE AVENGERS ARE--ARE MISSING!
WHO'S ATTACKING?
S.H.I.E.L.D. IS DOWN! EVERYTHING IS--!
WHO'S ATTACKING?
ALIENS!
WHAT IS "PYM" UP TO? I WAS CERTAIN HE WAS SOME KIND OF SKRULL IN A FORM THAT EVEN I COULD NOT--
WAIT. MY RING WAS ABLE TO DISTORT THE FREQUENCY OF 3-D MAN'S GOGGLES. MAYBE I COULD USE IT TO CHANGE MY OWN VISION...

I DON'T KNOW WHO EXACTLY I JUST--I JUST SAW THE SHIP OVER NEW YORK. I-I-I-I CAN'T FIND ANYONE!
GET THE KIDS SUITED UP. IT'S TIME.
BY THE THRONE WORLD! HE IS A SKRULL! BUT HOW? ALL THESE EARTH HEROES WITH THEIR GREAT GIFTS...
...HOW CAN THEY NOT KNOW? AND HOW CAN I TELL THEM WITHOUT GIVING MYSELF AWAY?
WE'RE GOING IN?
GUYS... THIS IS IT. THIS IS WHAT YOU'VE BEEN TRAINED FOR.
ALIEN INVASION. YEAH, RIGHT. I SEEM TO REMEMBER SOME OTHER TRAINING I GOT...
...AND SOMETHING TELLS THIS "LI'L BOY" THAT HE'LL BE IN THERE FOR SOME TIME.
...POTTY TRAINING FROM MY DEAR OL MOMMA O'GRADY. TO THE LI'L BOYS ROOM...
ALL RIGHT, PLAYTIME'S OVER. LOOKS LIKE WE GOT OURSELVES AN OMEGA LEVEL THREAT! THAT MEANS ONE THING, PEOPLE:
AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!
FINALLY. TO HEAR THAT CALL...
...BUT I NEVER THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FOR SUCH A CAUSE. A WAR AGAINST MY OWN KIND...

THIS IS WHAT I TRAINED YOU FOR! ANYONE PLANS TO EMBARRASS ME, YOU'D BEST JUMP OUT RIGHT NOW! YOU GOT A BETTER CHANCE OF LIVIN' THROUGH THAT THAN IF YOU PISS ME OFF!
HE INSPIRES HIS WARRIORS WELL. I USED TO BELIEVE ALL HUMANS WERE WEAK... SOFT.
BUT IT SEEMS COMBAT INSTRUCTORS ARE THE SAME THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE...
The Skrull Armada. Some Time Ago.
FORM UP, CURSE YOU! PATHETIC HATCHLINGS! YOU MOVE LIKE PREGNANT T'NAJA BEASTS!


SKRULL WARRIORS! YOUR ASSIGNMENTS HAVE ARRIVED. IN MOMENTS, YOU'LL DISCOVER HOW YOU WILL BE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THE EMPIRE.
TAKE PRIDE! YOUR SURVIVAL PROVES YOUR STRENGTH. UNLIKE THE WEAKLINGS WHO PERISHED IN TRAINING, YOUR DEATHS WILL BE GLORIOUS--
--IN SERVICE TO OUR HOLY CAUSE. THIS WAR MUST BE WON. IT IS FORETOLD WE WILL WIN. AND YOU SHALL ACHIEVE IMMORTALITY BY AIDING IN THAT VICTORY!
HE LOVES YOU. DISMISSED.
HAH! I'VE BEEN JUDGED WORTHY INDEED!
I'M ASSIGNED TO A NEW SECRET OPERATIONS SQUAD, HANDPICKED BY THE EMPRESS HERSELF. TOP THAT, Z'REG!
WITH PLEASURE, K'RTEM. I'VE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH THE MOST IMPORTANT DUTY IN THE SKRULL EMPIRE.
I'M TO TRAVEL TO EARTH AND SPY ON THE HATED AVENGERS!
PLEASED WITH YOURSELF, ARE YOU? WELL, WHILE YOU SIT IDLE ON THAT BACKWATER PLANET, NEVER FORGET WHO GAVE YOU THAT SCAR--
--AND WHICH OF US IS THE BETTER SKRULL.
THAT, K'RTEM, IS SOMETHING I SHALL NEVER FORGET.


BUT NEITHER MY BRAVADO NOR MY TRAINING PREPARED ME FOR WHAT I FOUND WHEN I ARRIVED.
I HAD COME TO SPY ON THE AVENGERS...
DAILY BUGLE
AVENGERS DISASSEMBLE!
...ONLY TO LEARN THE AVENGERS WERE NO MORE.
MY COVER WAS DEEP AND WELL ESTABLISHED. I HAD NO MEANS OF CONTACTING HOME. NO IDEA WHERE OTHERS LIKE MYSELF COULD BE FOUND.
JOIN TODAY!
ALTERNATIVES HAD NEVER BEEN DISCUSSED. I HAD BUT ONE PURPOSE: TO GATHER INTELLIGENCE ON THE AVENGERS...
...BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY.
OMIGOD, I AM, LIKE, A TOTAL AVENGERS FANGIRL. THAT DVD'S ONE OF MY FAVES-- LOTS OF BONUS FEATURES.
DON'T FORGET YOUR CANDY. YOU GET FREE CANDY WITH YOUR FIRST RENTAL.
AND WHAT... "CANDY"... DO YOU PREFER?
FOR WATCHING THE AVENGERS? RED VINES. THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE.
DVD

FASCINATING. I WAS TAUGHT THE AVENGERS WERE COWARDS. THEY'RE ACTUALLY
SONY
...DELICIOUS!
LIKED THE RED VINES, HUH?
YOUR ADVICE HAS BEEN MOST ILLUMINATING, STACY. WHAT ELSE DO YOU SUGGEST?
WE JUST GOT A DVD WITH WORLD WAR TWO FOOTAGE OF CAPTAIN AMERICA. IN COLOR! I DIDN'T KNOW THEY HAD COLOR BACK THEN!
I WILL TAKE IT...AND THIS "POPPED CORN" AS WELL.
I LOVE THIS PART. BADA-BING, RIGHT OFF THE FÜHRER'S HEAD!
HEY, YOUR ENGLISH IS BETTER. YOU'VE REALLY BEEN BONING UP ON OUR CUSTOMS, HUH?
STACY, I'VE COME TO LOVE THIS PLA...COUNTRY. THE AMAZING FOOD. THE THRILLING ADVENTURES OF YOUR "SUPER HEROES"...
POPCORN
"...ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING."

I'D BELIEVED IT WAS MY DESTINY TO HELP CONQUER EARTH. BUT ANOTHER DESTINY REVEALED ITSELF THE DAY I DISCOVERED ONE OF MY NEIGHBORS WAS A SUPER HERO.
AN INEXPERIENCED YOUTH CALLED FREEDOM RING. HE POSSESSED THE POWER TO ALTER REALITY WITHIN A LIMITED RANGE-- THANKS TO A RING FORGED FROM A COSMIC CUBE.
I'D NEVER SEEN SUCH A BEING IN PERSON BEFORE. I WAS FASCINATED. PERHAPS THAT'S WHY I DELAYED MY IMPULSIVE DECISION TO REVEAL MY TRUE FACE TO HIM.
I TOLD HIM I'D RENOUNCED MY PEOPLE...EMBRACED EARTH. AND I SPOKE THE TRUTH. LIKE A YOUNGLING WITH HIS FIRST FEMALE, I WAS SMITTEN.
YET I KNEW HE AND THOSE LIKE HIM WERE MARKED FOR DESTRUCTION. THAT IF THEY WERE TO SURVIVE, THEY WOULD ONE DAY HAVE TO FIGHT.
SO I TRAINED HIM. DIFFERENTLY THAN MY INSTRUCTORS HAD TRAINED ME. I STILL BELIEVED HUMANS WERE WEAK, SO I ARMED HIM WITH A FAR SUPERIOR HAND.
FOR YEARS WE'D SPARRED AND I'D BEEN PROUD OF MY PUPIL'S GROWTH. BE CAREFUL TODAY!!
I IGNORED HIM IN MY PEOPLE'S MADNESS. IF YOUR SKRULL-BROTHER FALLS IN BATTLE, YOU TAKE UP HIS WEAPON.

I HAD NO COMPUNCTIONS ABOUT PUTTING MYSELF WITH EARTHLINGS... NOT WHAT EARTHLINGS!
MERE MORTALS! I THRILLED TO HIS EXPLOITS AND NOW SHAKING MY HAND!
THAT WAS AN IMPRESSIVE JOB OUT THERE, SON. IMPRESSIVE.
I WAN
WHEN SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION BEGAN, I FRANKLY BALKED. THIS WAS MY DREAM: TO BE ACCEPTED AS ONE OF THEM! TO PROVE MYSELF AT THEIR SIDE!
LOOK ALIVE, PEOPLE! TARGET SITE'S DIRECTLY BELOW!
WELCOME TO TIMES SQUARE. YOU WANNA SIGHTSEE, YOU GOT TWO SECONDS...
AND NOW THAT DREAM HAS COME TRUE...
...THEN IT'S BUTT-KICKING TIME!

MAY BOTH THIS WORLD AND MY HOMEWORLD FORGIVE ME!
TEAMS OF THREE AND END IT FAST!
HOLD THE LINE TILL THE CAVALRY COMES!

I MUST...
I MUST DO SOMETHING!
YOU! DON'T MOVE!
I'LL SAVE YOU!
THANK YOU! I THINK HE'S HURT.
DON'T WORRY. I'LL GET ALL OF YOU TO SAFETY.
AS LONG AS I'M HERE, NO INNOCENT FALLS TODAY.
NO MERCY, CADETS! THIS AIN'T A BANK ROBBERY, THIS IS WAR!
AND THAT MEANS THE ONLY GOOD SKRULL IS A DEAD SKRULL!

YOU'RE CLEAR! NOW GO! FIND SHELTER!
BUT MY WIFE--
SHE'LL BE FINE! I SWEAR I'LL PROTECT YOU ALL!
AND HOW WILL YOU DO THAT, EARTHER--
--WHEN YOU CAN'T EVEN PROTECT YOURSELF?
HNGH!
YAOWW
YOUR [illegible] IS YOU RUSH [illegible]
...AND THEN YOU CRADLE YOUR WEAK! HA! LET ME SHOW YOU HOW SKRULLS NEED THE CALL!
HEAD FIRST! WARRIOR TO WARRIOR!
EYE TO-- Z"REG?

K'RTEM?
SCHHH
HAH! FIRST BLOOD TO ME...
SSHHH
...MY FRIEND.
WELL STRUCK. I'LL WEAR THE SCAR WITH PRIDE, NO MATTER WHAT FORM I TAKE, AS A BADGE OF HONOR.
WHEN OTHERS ASK WHY, I SHALL TELL THEM I RECEIVED IT FROM THE GREAT WARRIOR K'RTEM... AND THEY WILL UNDERSTAND.
WEAR IT WELL, SKRULL-BROTHER.
HE LOVES YOU.
HE LOVES YOU.
NO! YOU'LL GIVE ME AWAY! YOU CAN'T!
SKUTCHH!

K-KHAKK!
I--I SEE YOU RECALL OUR DRILLS...
...ON PLACEMENT OF VITAL ORGANS...
...IN B-B-BATTLE...
K'RTEM, I--IT WAS REFLEX! I NEVER MEANT--
AT LAST WE DISCOVER...WHO IS THE BETTER WARRIOR.
NO!!
K'RTEM, WAIT! THIS RING IS FORGED FROM FRAGMENTS OF THE COSMIC CUBE.
I CAN CHANGE THE SHAPE OF REALITY! YOU WILL NOT FALL TODAY!

AS LONG AS I WISH IT, YOU'LL STAY ALIVE!
BUT WHAT IF I DO NOT WISH IT, Z'REG?
DON'T SAY THAT. HE LOVES YOU.
I KNOW. BUT I CAN SEE....
...YOU NO LONGER LOVE HIM.

DAMN, CADETS! YOU ARE MOTHER-LUVIN' SKRULL-KILLIN' MACHINES!
EARS UP! BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS FOR EVERY LAST ONE A'YOU!
THIS IS YOUR HERO'S LICENSE RIGHT HERE! Y'HEAR ME?!
TODAY'S THE DAY YOU ALL BECAME HEROES!
I AM A HERO OF EARTH...
...A TRAITOR TO MY RACE, AND A WARRIOR NO MORE.
FROM THIS DAY ON THIS IS MY ONE SHAPE. AND, TO MY EVERLASTING SHAME...
...I LEAVE THIS FIELD OF BATTLE UNSCARRED.

THE ONLY GOOD SKRULL

DAN SLOTT AND **CHRISTOS N. GAGE**
WRITERS

HARVEY TOLIBAO
ARTIST

JAY DAVID RAMOS
COLOR ARTIST

VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA
LETTERER

MARK BROOKS AND **CHRISTINA STRAIN**
COVER ARTISTS

JEANINE SCHAEFER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

TOM BREVOORT
EDITOR

JOE QUESADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER